

What is claimed is:

1. An electrical connector assembly, comprising:

an elongate insulative housing having a base portion, a plurality of passageways defined in the base portion, and an insulative insert in a rear end thereof;

a plurality of signal and grounding contacts each comprising a mating section extending beyond the insulative insert and received into a corresponding passageway of the housing, a connecting section remained in the insert, and a step section between the mating section and the connecting section and rendering the mating section higher than the connecting section;

a grounding bar assembled in the insert, the grounding bar having a plurality of grounding fingers electrically connecting with corresponding grounding contacts; and

a plurality of cables extending into the insulative insert and electrically soldered to the connecting sections.

2. The electrical connector assembly as described in claim 1, wherein the cable comprises a plurality of high speed wires that are differential pairs electrically soldered to corresponding signal contacts.

3. The electrical connector assembly as described in claim 1, wherein a pair of retention portions is formed at a pair of lateral ends of the base portion, and a pair of latch devices is pivotably mounted to the retention portions, each latch device having a latch portion for latching with a complementary connector and a tab engaging with the housing for resisting a pulling force acting on the each latch device from the complementary connector.

4. The electrical connector assembly as described in claim 3, wherein each latch device has a body portion enclosing and pivotably mounted on a corresponding retention portion of the housing, and the latch portion extends

forwardly from the body portion.

5. The electrical connector assembly as described in claim 1, further comprising a grounding plate having a plurality of grounding fingers and at least one grounding beam, said at least one grounding beam electrically contacting the grounding bar.

6. The electrical connector assembly as described in claim 1, further comprising a shield enclosing the housing.

7. The electrical connector assembly as described in claim 6, wherein the shield has a pair of side portions formed on a pair of lateral ends thereof, and each latch device has a spring tab extending from the body portion and abutting against a corresponding side portion of the shield.

8. A method for making an electrical connector assembly comprising:

providing an elongate insulative housing having a base portion and a plurality of passageways defined in the base portion;

providing an insulative insert having a plurality of channels;

providing a plurality of signal and grounding contacts each having a connecting section retained in the channel, and a mating section extending beyond the insulative insert;

providing a plurality of cables each having a conductor placed into the channel and connecting with the connecting section of the contact;

placing a plurality of solders into the channels;

heating the mating sections of the contacts so that the solders are melted and solder the connecting sections and the conductors together; and

assembling the insulative insert to the housing with the mating sections received into the passageways.

9. The method of making the electrical connector assembly as described in claim 8, wherein the connector assembly further comprises a grounding bar

assembled to the insulative insert, the grounding bar having a plurality of grounding fingers soldered to the connecting sections of the contacts.

10. The method of making the electrical connector assembly as described in claim 8, wherein the connector assembly further comprises a shield enclosing the housing therein.

11. An electrical connector assembly comprising:

an elongated insulative housing defining a base portion extending along a longitudinal direction thereof with a plurality of passageways therein;

a plurality of signal and grounding contacts disposed in the corresponding passageways, respectively;

a plurality of cables including inner conductors mechanically and electrically engaged with the corresponding signal contacts;

a grounding bar including a main portion extending along said longitudinal direction with a plurality of grounding fingers extending therefrom and mechanically and electrically engaged with the corresponding grounding contacts; and

a metallic shielding enclosing said housing and including resilient tabs mechanically and electrically engaged with the grounding bar.

12. The assembly as described in claim 11, further including a grounding plate extending along said longitudinal direction and mechanically and electrically engaged with the grounding bar.

13. The assembly as described in claim 12, wherein said grounding plate is located above the grounding bar while under the corresponding shielding.